REMARKS

The restriction requirement states that the inventions are distinct because they are related as subcombinations. Even if the claims are drawn to patentably distinct or independent inventions, MPEP § 803 provides that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." Although the scope of the claims of groups I and II varies and Applicant agrees that the claims are patentably distinct, many of the claimed features are similar. For example, each of the claims relates to managing execution of an application according to an application lifecycle. Moreover, many of the claims in groups I and II relate to communication between an application and an application manager. Accordingly, although it is acknowledged that the inventions of groups I and II are patentably distinct, Applicant respectfully submits that it would not unduly burden the examiner to simultaneously examine the claims of groups I and II.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this matter, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted, BEYER, WEAVER & THOMAS

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